

REMARKS

The Examiner's recognition of Applicants' invention by the indication of allowable subject matter for claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-16, 18, and 20-24 is gratefully acknowledged.

The Abstract is rewritten to provide a clearer description of the disclosure.

Claim 1 is amended to clarify that the recited resistances are electrical resistances, and to more particularly point out that Applicants' temperature sensor includes a substrate, a membrane supported by the substrate and an electrical circuit that determines the recited electrical resistances, as shown in Figs. 2A and 3 A. The claim is further amended to call for a second substrate resistance and a second membrane resistance, and to more particularly point out that the resistances are arranged in a bridge configuration to facilitate measurement of a differential voltage, features originally recited in claim 2, now cancelled.

Claims 3-7 are amended to recite electrical resistances, consistent with the antecedent in claim 1. Also, the dependency of claims 3-6 are amended in view of the cancellation of an intervening claim.

Claim 11 is amended similar to claim 1 to clarify that the claim refers to electrical resistances, that the temperature sensor include a substrate, membrane and circuit, and that the resistances are arranged in a bridge configuration, a feature originally recited in claim 12, now cancelled. Dependent claims 13-16 and 20-23 are amended recite electrical resistances consistent with claim 11 and to depend upon claim 11.

Objection to Specification

An objection was made to the Abstract of the Disclosure. The Abstract has been rewritten to clarify that the temperature sensor includes a circuit that determines electrical resistances of the substrate and membrane.

Therefore, it is requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Objections to Claims

In response to an objection, the claims have been amended to clarify that the temperature sensor includes a circuit that determines electrical resistances responsive to the temperatures of the substrate and membrane.

Also in response to an objection, claim 23 is made dependent upon claim 22, and refers to the first varying portion as recited in claim 22.

In view of the amendment, it is requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC § 112

In response to an objection under 35 USC § 112, as indefinite in reciting “primarily.” The claims have been amended to delete the term. Therefore, it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,512,650, issued to Renken et al. in 1985. Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Renken et al.

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to more particularly point out that Applicants' temperature sensor comprises an electrical circuit that determines electrical resistances that are responsive to temperatures of the substrate and membrane, and are arranged in a bridge configuration to allow measurement of differential voltage. Renken et al. describes a thermal mass flow meter. However, Renken et al. does not show a circuit that determines resistances that are indicative of the temperature of the substrate and the membrane, and connects them in a bridge configuration to provide differential measurements that can be processed by a controller. Thus, Renken et al. does not teach or suggest Applicants' invention as set forth in claims 1 and 11, or in claim 7 dependent upon claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of the claims based upon Renken et al. be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that the claims be allowed.

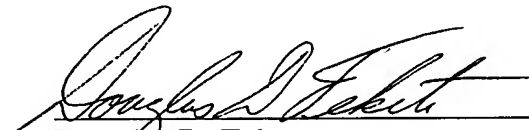
Conclusion

Claim 2-6, 10, 13-16, and 20-24 were objected to as dependent upon rejected base claims. In view of the amendments and remarks herein, it is believed that the base claims are now allowable. Accordingly, it is requested that the objection be withdrawn, and that all claims be allowed.

If it would further prosecution of the application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the phone number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas D. Fekete", written over a horizontal line.

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